

**Middletown Economic Development Advisory Committee
Minutes of May 9, 2018, 4:30 pm
Middletown Town Hall, 2nd Floor Conference Room**

Members Present:

John Bagwill
Joseph A. Cirillo
Tom Kowalczyk
David Lepore
Robert Silva, Chairman
Barbara VonVillas
Ronald Wolanski

Members absent:

Erin Donovan-Boyle
Nicholas Coogan
Liana Ferreira-Fenton
Dennis Turano

The meeting was called to order by Mr. Silva at approximately 4:30pm

1. Approval of the minutes of the April 19, 2018 MEDAC meeting,

Motion by Mr. Kowalczyk, seconded by Mr. Silva, to approve the minutes of the April 19, 2018 meeting. Vote 7-0-0.

2. Discuss recent Chamber of Commerce job fair and needs of local employers.

Mr. Kowalczyk discussed the Chamber of Commerce job fair held at CCRI in April, which he attended. He noted that there was good participation from local businesses and job seekers, but there is no way to determine the number of jobs that were filled as a result of the fair. He will be looking for potential methods for tracking the success of the job fair going forward. He also suggested that the fair could be held more frequently.

3. Discussion of possible banners and other promotional efforts for the Two-mile Corner Area.

Mr. Wolanski stated that he had learned that Town Councilman Paul Rodrigues had actually made the suggestion to promote the Two-mile corner area.

By consensus the committee requested that Mr. Rodrigues be invited to an upcoming MEDAC meeting to discuss.

4. Update on status of Atlantic Beach District roadway improvements design contract. Recap of Planning Board public meeting.

Mr. Wolanski provided copies of the presentation given during the April 30th public workshop. Both he and Mr. Silva described the response to the concept plans as overwhelmingly positive. Mr. Wolanski stated that during an upcoming meeting the

planning board will consider the input received on the concept plans and forward it to the Town Council, along with any recommendations the board might have.

5. Update on status of tax increment finance (TIF) discussion.

The committee reviewed a memo from Town Administrator Shawn Brown, dated May 9, 2018 regarding potential special legislation that would set the base date for a TIF created in Middletown in 2018 as Dec. 31, 2016. Draft legislation was attached. It was noted that the memo asserts that the Town Council would have to increase property taxes or cut expenses in order to capture the increased tax revenue resulting from increased assessments back to Dec. 31, 2016.

There was discussion of the desire to ask the Town Council to consider the draft legislation. This would provide flexibility in the event the town ultimately decided to proceed with creation of a TIF in 2018. It was noted that the Town Council has already indicated that creation of a TIF would not be consider as long as creation of a redevelopment agency is a prerequisite.

Motion by Mr. Cirillo, seconded by Mr. Lepore, to recommend to the Town Council that the draft legislation be submitted to the legislature for consideration in the current legislative session. **Vote:** 7-0-0.

6. Next meeting June 7, 2018, 4:30pm

7. The meeting was adjourned at 5:25pm

Respectfully submitted:
Ron Wolanski, Town Planner